

Archie
ADVENTURE
SERIES

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SEPT.

SEGA

SONIC'S FRIENDLY NEMESIS

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KNUCKLES

#3
OF 3 ISSUE
MINI-SERIES



PENDERS • SPAZIANTE • MAWHINNEY
HARVO • KANTEROVICH • EISMAN • HUNTER

*SONIC THE HEDGEHOG--WITH GREAT
RELUCTANCE--PRESENTS HIS FRIENDLY NEMESIS*

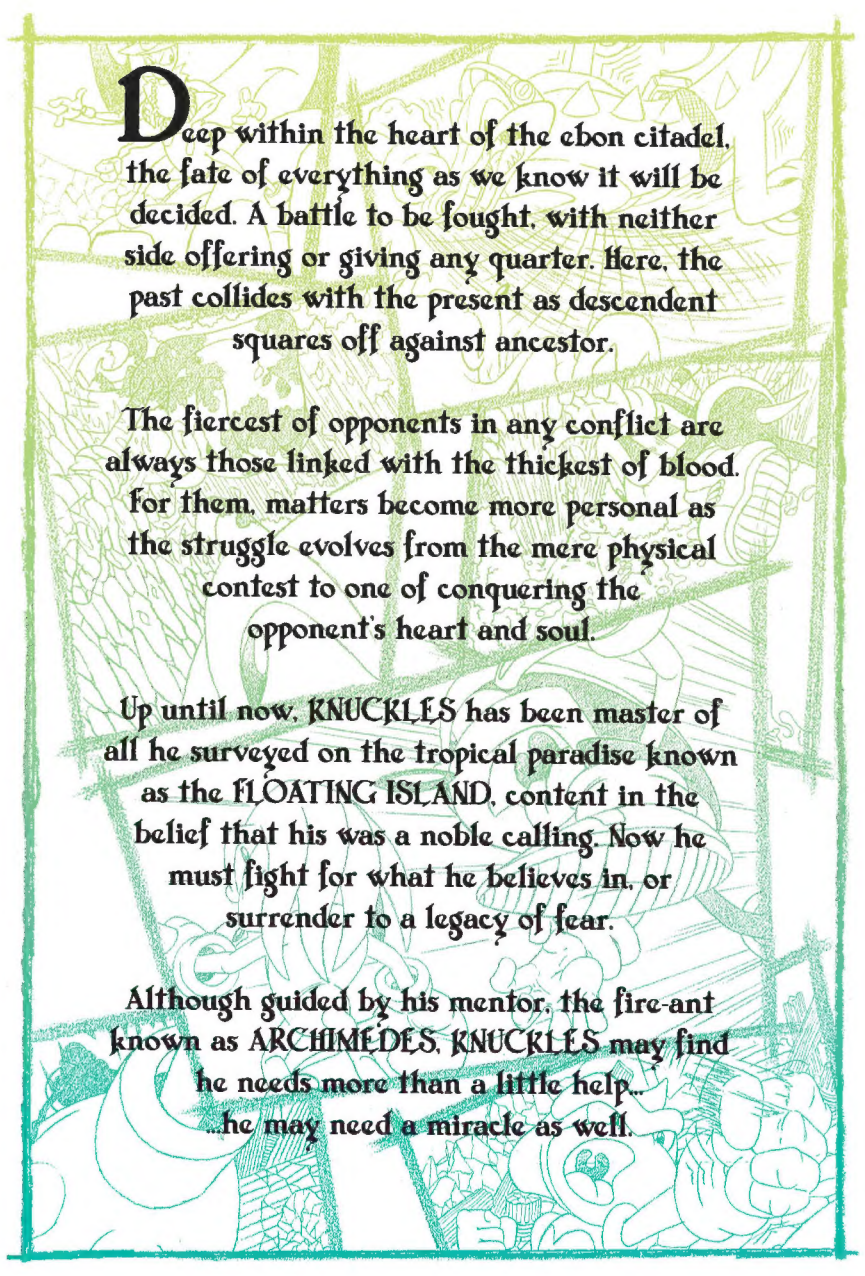
KNUCKLES

*...AND THE ECHIDNA'S
TRAVELLING COMPANION,
ARCHIMEDES...*

*...AS THEY BATTLE THE
IN ORDER TO DEFEAT THE EVEN DEADLIER
THREAT OF...*

ENERJAK!



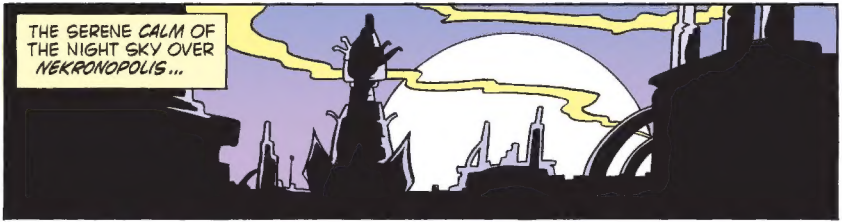


Deep within the heart of the ebon citadel, the fate of everything as we know it will be decided. A battle to be fought, with neither side offering or giving any quarter. Here, the past collides with the present as descendent squares off against ancestor.

The fiercest of opponents in any conflict are always those linked with the thickest of blood. For them, matters become more personal as the struggle evolves from the mere physical contest to one of conquering the opponent's heart and soul.

Up until now, KNUCKLES has been master of all he surveyed on the tropical paradise known as the FLOATING ISLAND, content in the belief that his was a noble calling. Now he must fight for what he believes in, or surrender to a legacy of fear.

Although guided by his mentor, the fire-ant known as ARCHIMEDES, KNUCKLES may find he needs more than a little help...
...he may need a miracle as well.

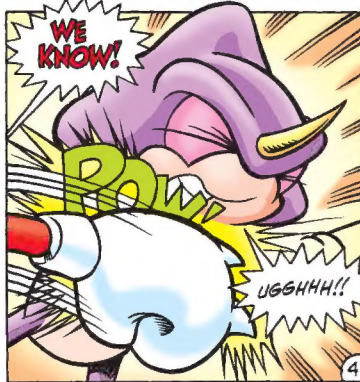
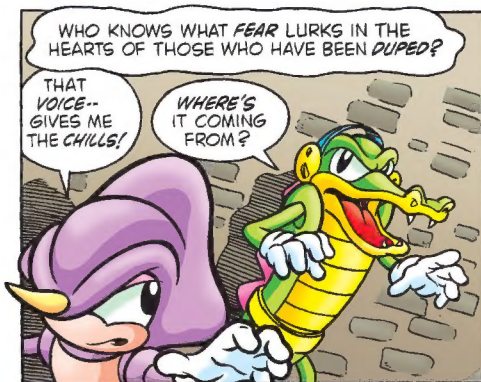
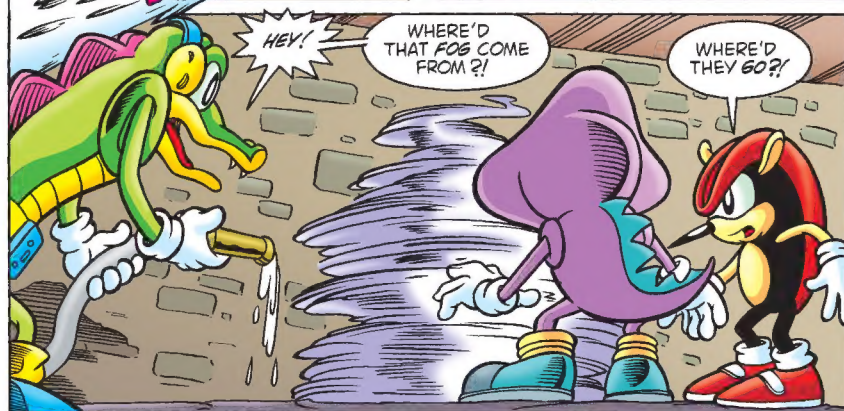
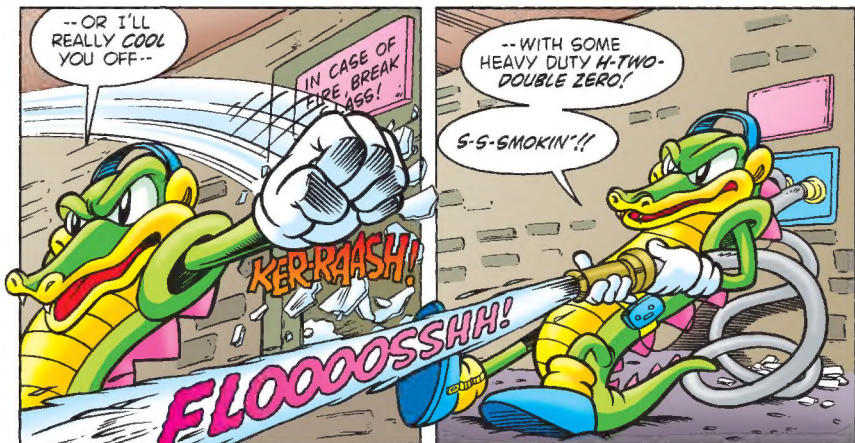


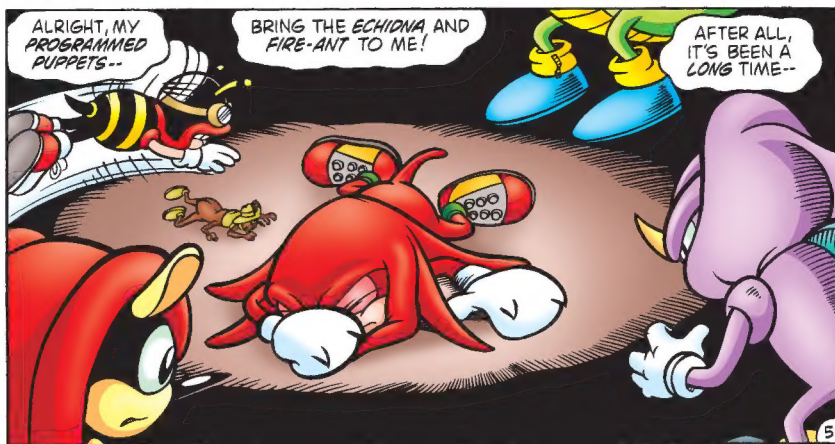
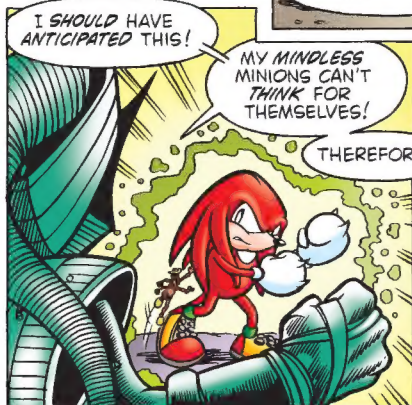
...BUT WE CAN
STILL MAKE IT HOT
FOR YOU!

FLAME OFF,
BUD--

FWA-WOOOSH!

SCRIPT: KEN PENDERS & MIKE KANTEROVICH	PENCILS: ART MAWHINNEY	INKS: HARVO	LETTERING: MINDY EISMAN
COLORING: KYLE HUNTER	EDITOR: FREDDY MENDEZ-GABRIE	MANAGING EDITOR: VICTOR GORELICK	EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: RICHARD GOLDWATER





"...SINCE I VISITED WITH THE FAMILY!"

I'M QUITE SURE, ECHIDNA, YOU HAVEN'T ANY CONCEPT JUST HOW LONG--

-- BUT I'D WAGER THE FIRE-ANT DOES!

DID YOU KNOW THAT AT ONE TIME THE ECHIDNAS WERE THE MOST ADVANCED SPECIES ON MOBIUS?

"MY BROTHER EDMUND AND I WERE ECHIDNAOPOLIS' TOP SCIENTISTS, AND IT WAS OUR DREAM TO RESTORE THE FLOATING ISLAND TO ITS NATIVE MOBIUS UTILIZING THE ENERGY OF THE CHAOS EMERALDS!"

"I CREATED THE CHAOS SYPHON, WHICH WOULD GRADUALLY ABSORB THE ENERGY GENERATED BY THE EMERALDS, THUS LOWERING US UNTIL WE WERE REJOINED WITH THE LAND!"

"HOWEVER, WE WERE DENIED BY THE COUNCIL ELDERS--FOOLISH OLD MEN TOO WEAK-WILLED TO SEE THAT OUR PREDICAMENT REQUIRED A SOLUTION THAT WAS BOLD AND DARING!"

"... MY BROTHER WAS AMONG THEM! AND SO IT FELL TO ME TO CARRY OUT THE PLAN!"

"UNFORTUNATELY..."

"WHAT I DIDN'T COUNT ON WAS A REDIRECTION OF THE ENERGY THAT WAS CHANNLED INTO ME--

"-- INTO SOMETHING FAR MORE!"

"HOWEVER WELL I PLANNED, IN MY ARROGANCE I HAD NOT TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT YOUR ANCESTORS ENTERING THE FRAY, FIRE-ANT!"

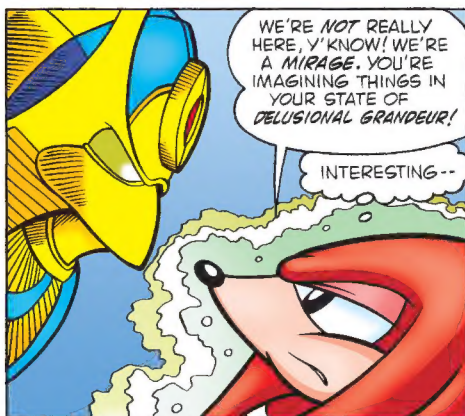
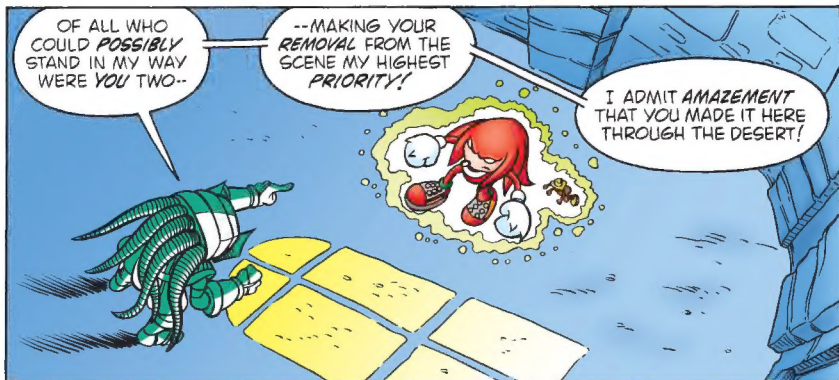
"THEY FOILED MY PLANS, BRINGING DOWN MY OWN CREATION UPON ME!"

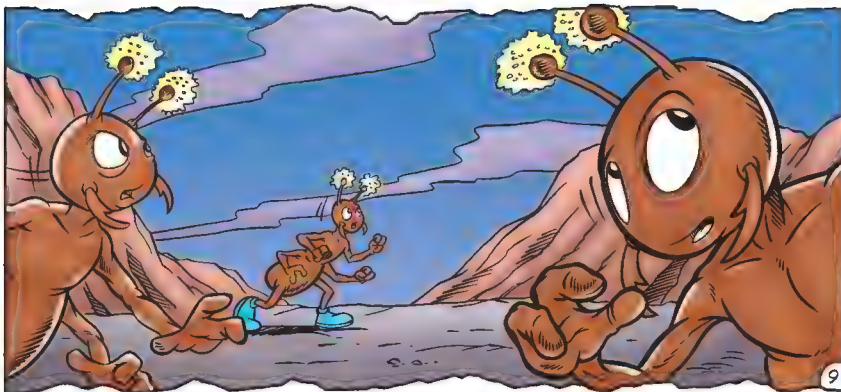
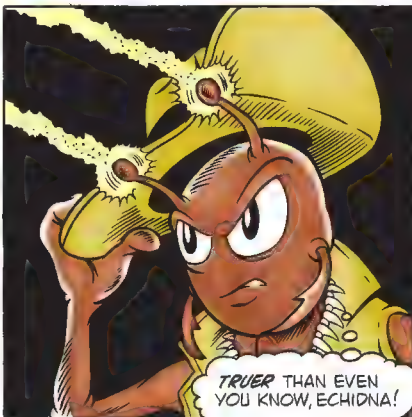
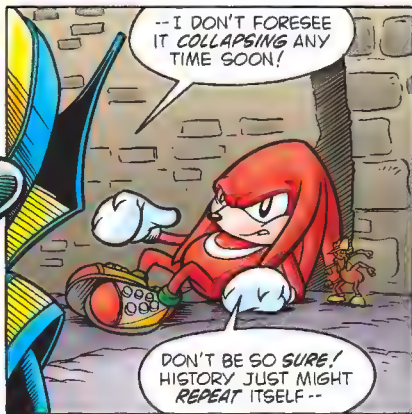
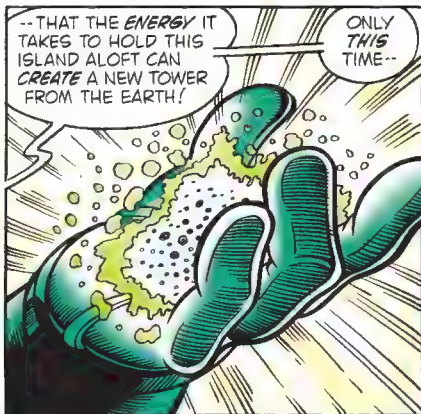
"I SUPPOSE MY BROTHER EDMUND TOOK IT UPON HIMSELF TO MAKE ATONEMENT FOR MY DEEDS--"

"--PROBABLY WRACKED WITH GUILT OVER MY DEATH, BUT I DID NOT DIE! FOR UNTOLD GENERATIONS I LAY IN UTTER BLACKNESS--"

"--UNTIL THE TIME WAS RIGHT FOR MY REBIRTH, AND WITH MY RENEWED LIFEFORCE I EMERGED--"

-- FREE TO CONQUER A WORLD AND BEYOND!







I HARDLY
THINK SO! LET ME
DEMONSTRATE!



THAT WAS BUT
A MILD TASTE!

ARE WE
SUPPOSED TO BE
IMPRESSED?

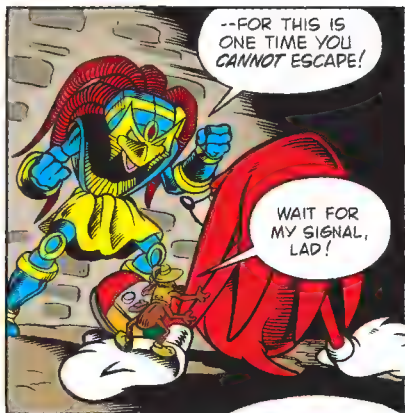


NO.

YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO *QUAKE* IN
MORTAL TERROR AT THE FATE I'VE
IN STORE FOR YOU!

PREPARE
YOURSELVES--





--FOR THIS IS ONE TIME YOU CANNOT ESCAPE!

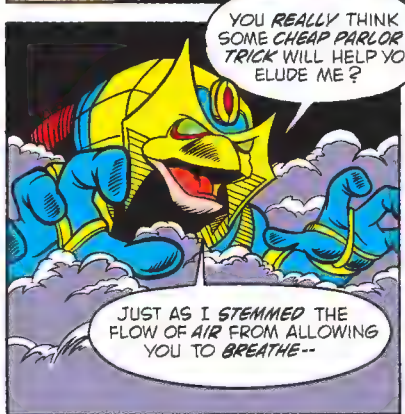
WAIT FOR MY SIGNAL, LAD!



I BID YOU-- ADIEU!

POOF!

WHA--?



YOU REALLY THINK SOME CHEAP PARLOR TRICK WILL HELP YOU ELUDE ME?

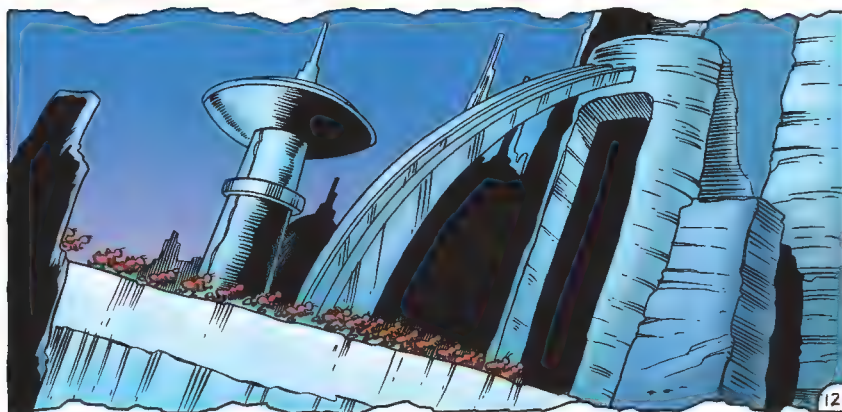
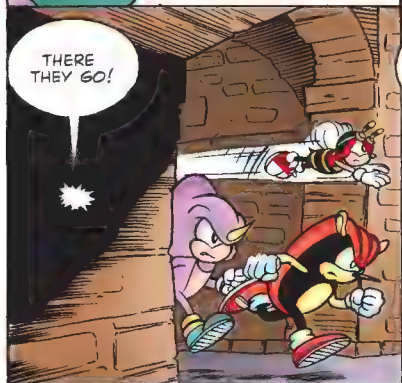
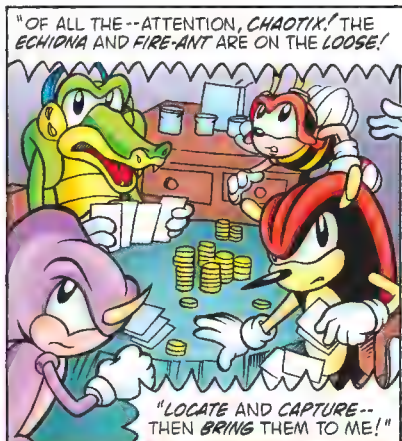
JUST AS I STEMMED THE FLOW OF AIR FROM ALLOWING YOU TO BREATHE--

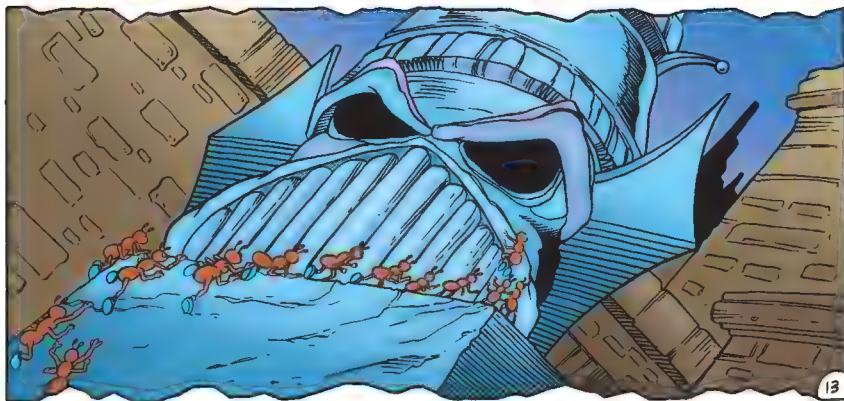
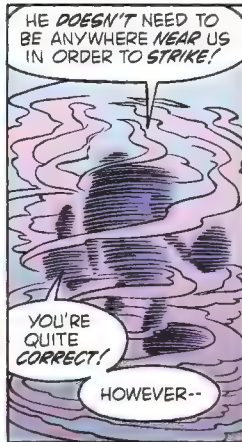


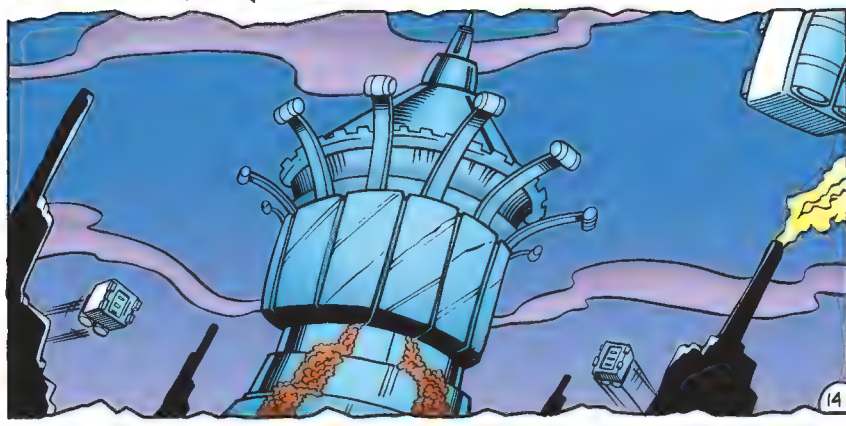
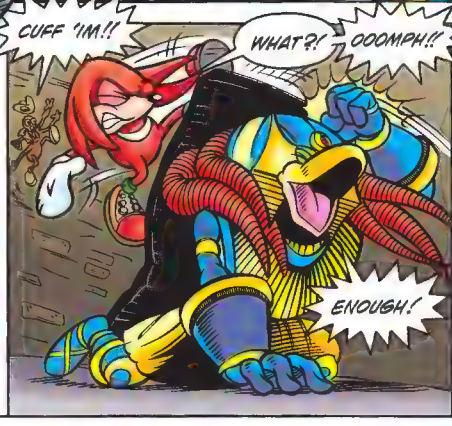
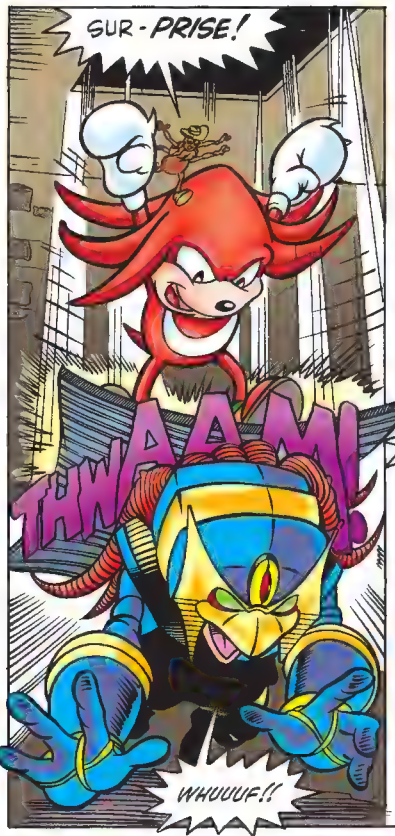
--I WILL--

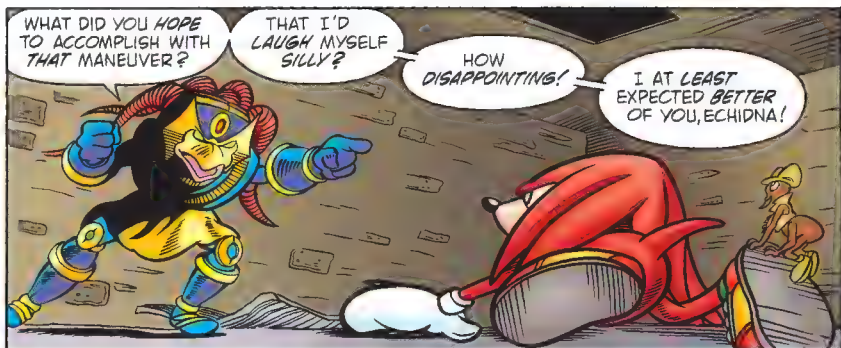
THEY'VE VANISHED!











WHAT DID YOU HOPE TO ACCOMPLISH WITH THAT MANEUVER?

THAT I'D LAUGH MYSELF SILLY?

HOW DISAPPOINTING!

I AT LEAST EXPECTED BETTER OF YOU, ECHIDNA!



THE NAME'S **KNUCKLES**, ENERJAK--



--OR SHOULD I SAY-- GREAT UNCLE DIMITRI?



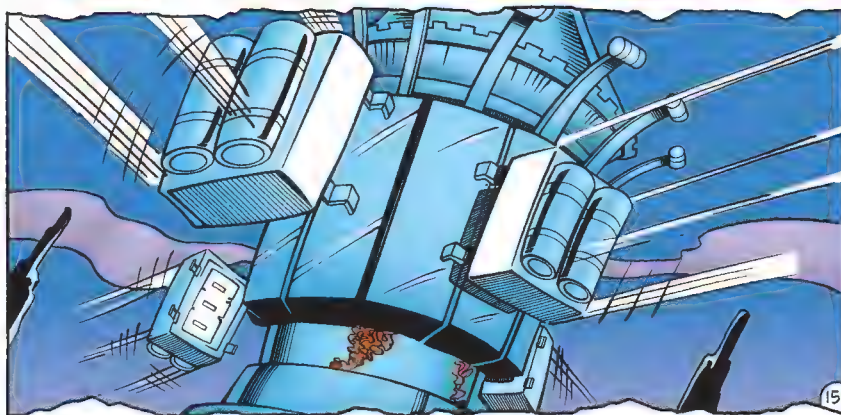
THE ONLY ECHIDNA WHO EVER PUT HIMSELF OVER HIS OWN KIND!

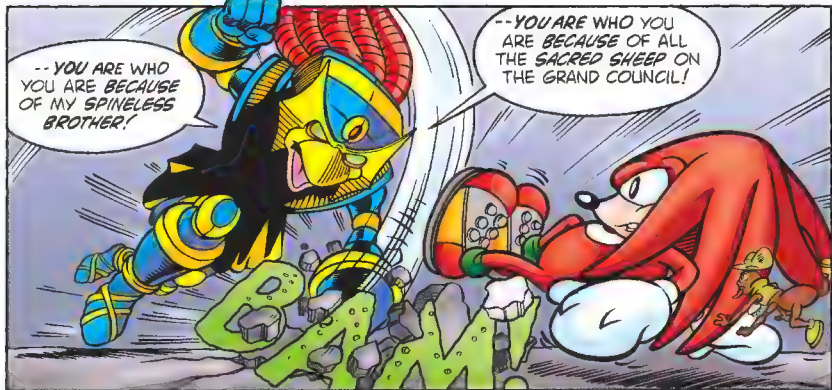
I'VE KNOWN ALL ABOUT YOU FOR A LONG TIME!



I AM WHAT I AM BECAUSE OF YOU!

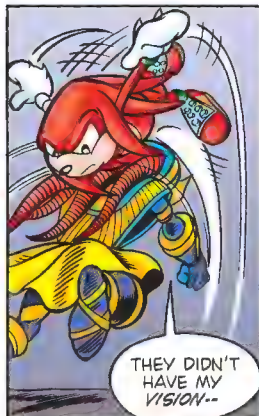
NO--





-- YOU ARE WHO YOU ARE BECAUSE OF MY SPINELESS BROTHER!

-- YOU ARE WHO YOU ARE BECAUSE OF ALL THE SACRED SHEEP ON THE GRAND COUNCIL!

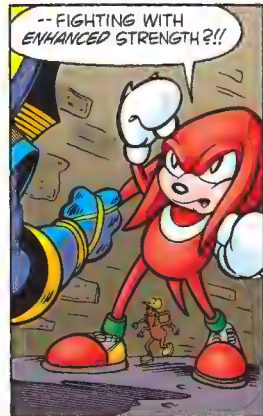


THEY DIDN'T HAVE MY VISION--

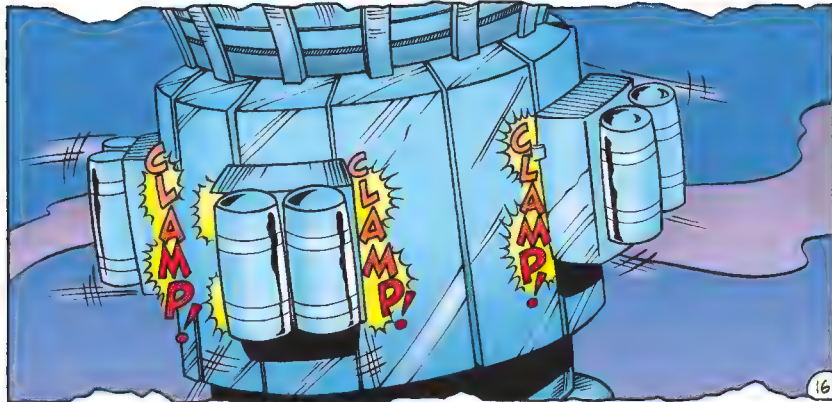


--OR MY COURAGE!

YOU CALL THIS COURAGE--

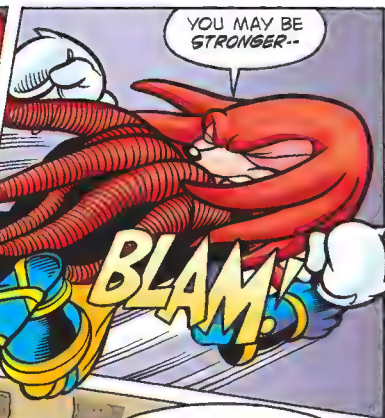


-- FIGHTING WITH ENHANCED STRENGTH?!!





I NEED ONLY MY RAW NATURAL STRENGTH TO TAKE YOU OUT, PUP!

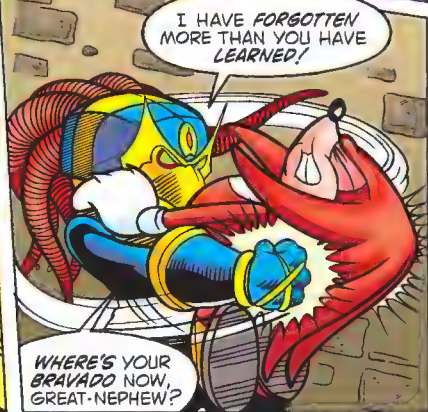


YOU MAY BE STRONGER--

BLAM!

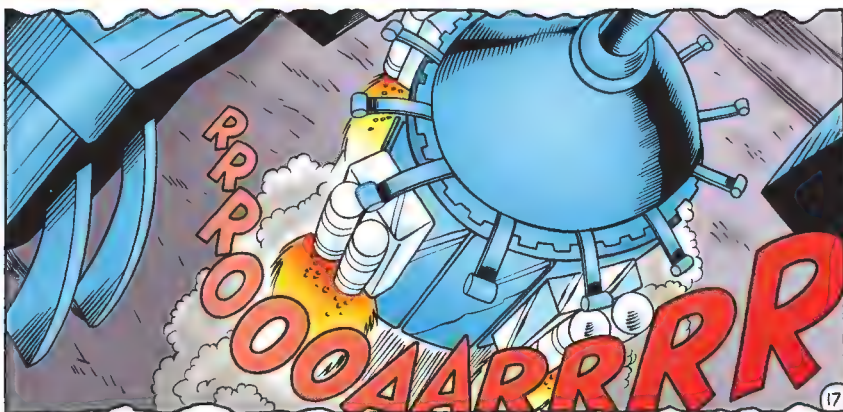


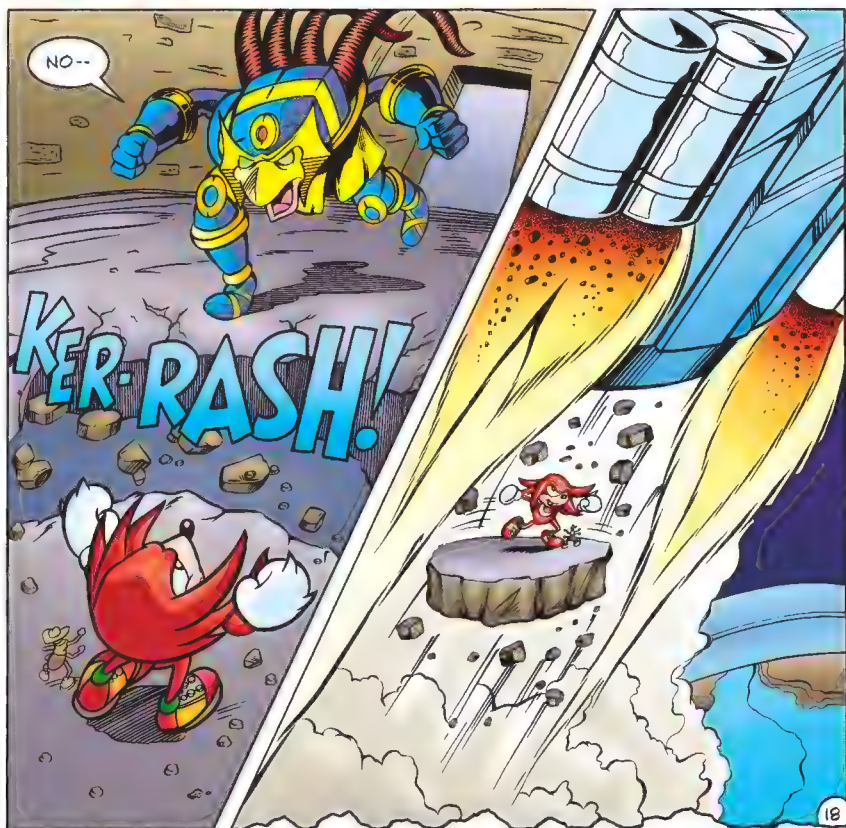
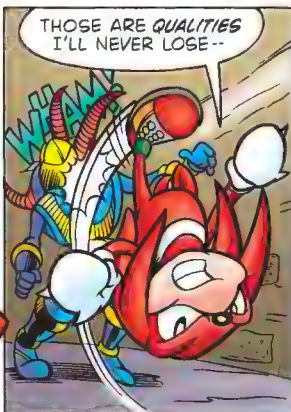
--BUT DO YOU KNOW HOW TO FIGHT?!

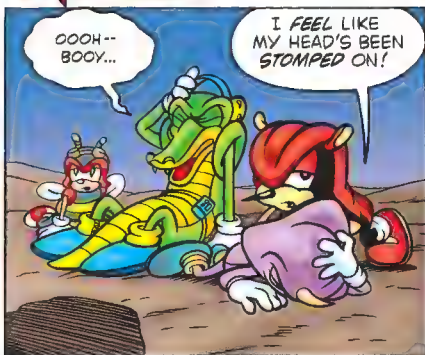
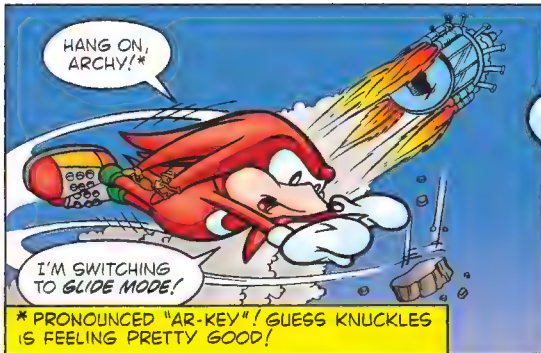


I HAVE FORGOTTEN MORE THAN YOU HAVE LEARNED!

WHERE'S YOUR BRAVADO NOW, GREAT-NEPHEW?









YOU DID IT AGAIN, KNUX!

BUT HOW'D JA DO IT THIS TIME?

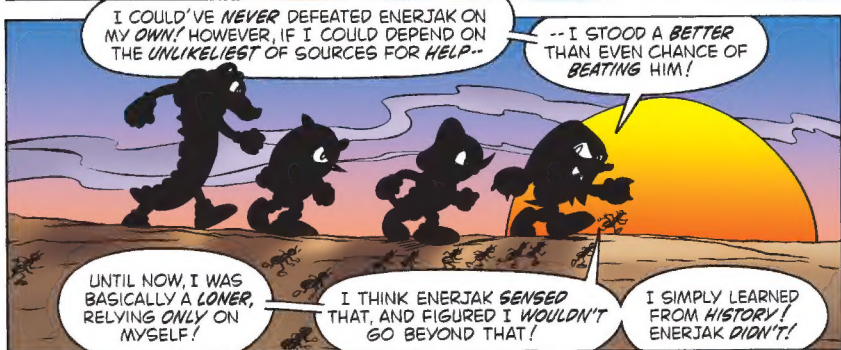
YEAH!

FOR ONCE, GUYS, I CAN'T TAKE THE CREDIT!



IT WAS A COMBINATION OF THINGS THAT ADDED UP WHEN I PUT 'EM TOGETHER!

MY DAD'S STORY-- PLUS ARCHIMEDES-- PLUS ENERJAK'S!



I COULD'VE NEVER DEFEATED ENERJAK ON MY OWN! HOWEVER, IF I COULD DEPEND ON THE UNLIKELIEST OF SOURCES FOR HELP--

-- I STOOD A BETTER CHANCE OF BEATING HIM!

UNTIL NOW, I WAS BASICALLY A LONER, RELYING ONLY ON MYSELF!

I THINK ENERJAK SENSED THAT, AND FIGURED I WOULDN'T GO BEYOND THAT!

I SIMPLY LEARNED FROM HISTORY! ENERJAK DIDN'T!



FOR ALL HIS OMNIPOTENCE, EVEN ENERJAK DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THE OASIS WE FOUND IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE!

AND WE STILL HAVEN'T A CLUE WHERE IT CAME FROM, OR DISAPPEARED TO!

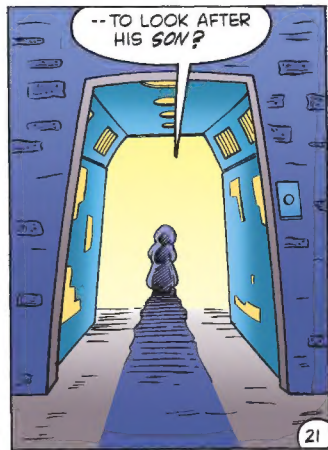
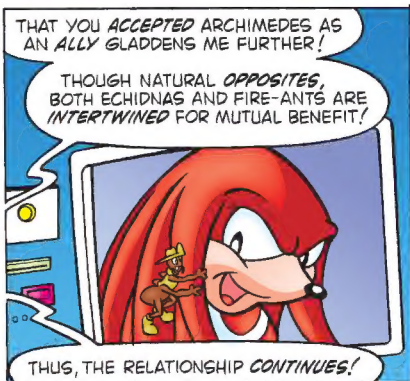
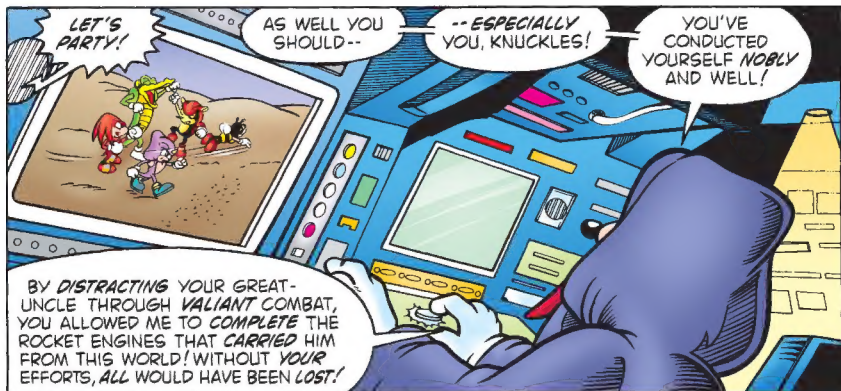


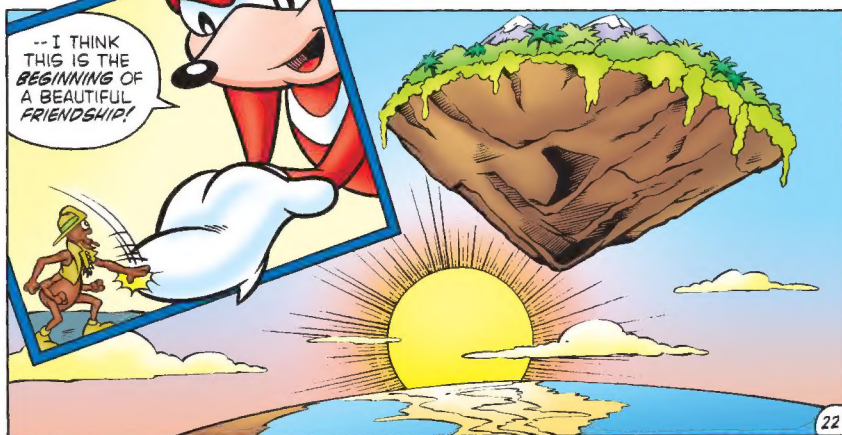
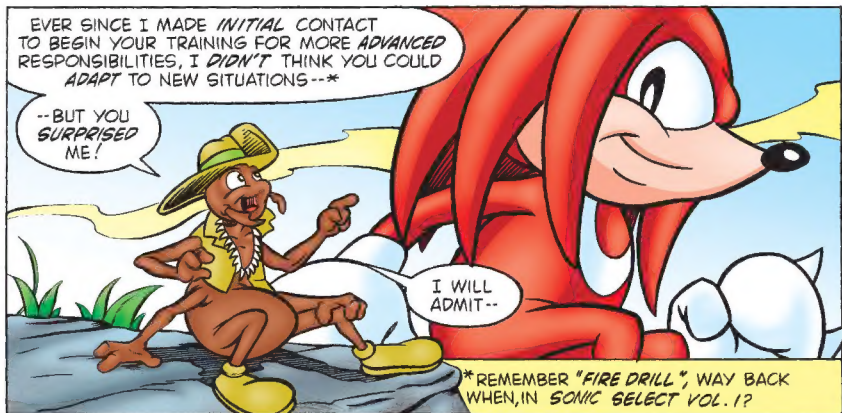
AWWW--

WHO CARES?

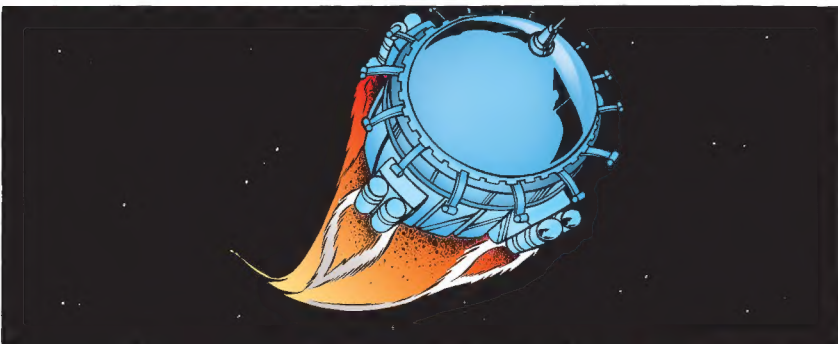
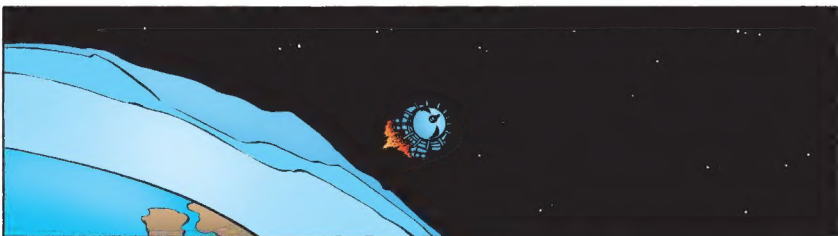
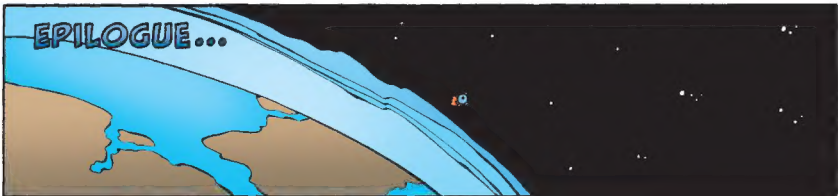
THE GOOD GUYS WON ANYWAY!

LET'S PARTY!





EPILOGUE...



THE END--

--FOR NOW!